

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01833 290700Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----290706Z 019545 /15

O R 290646Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3272
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 1833

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, ET, ASEC
SUBJ: SAFETY OF AMCITS IN ETHIOPIA

REF: A. STATE 67840, B. USCINCEUR 261745Z MAR 77, C. STOCK-
HOLM 1321, D. STATE 65918, E. ADDIS ABABA 1793

1. APPRECIATE DEPT'S CONCERN. WE HAVE OF COURSE BEEN
AIRING SAME PROBLEMS HERE, MOST RECENTLY AT COUNTRY TEAM
MEETINGS MAR 25 AND 28, AND WE HAVE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
TO ALL MEMBERS OF MISSION THOSE STEPS WE BELIEVE APPROPRIATE
TO PRESENT SITUATION (ADDIS 1793). WHILE THERE IS CERTAINLY
ELEMENT OF DANGER FROM INDISCRIMINATE FIRE AND UNPREDICTABLE
BEHAVIOR BY KEBELE DEFENSE SQUADS, I BELIEVE, AND COUNTRY
TEAM UNANIMOUSLY AGREES, THAT MEASURES WE HAVE TAKEN THUS
FAR HAVE MINIMIZED DANGERS TO AMERICAN PERSONNEL BY KEEPING
THEM AWAY FROM MOST LIKELY SOURCES OF TROUBLE AND ARE
SUFFICIENT FOR THE MOMENT.

2. GENERAL SITUATION IMPROVED SLIGHTLY OVER WEEKEND.
NO NEW INCIDENTS INVOLVING AMERICANS WERE REPORTED AND
THUS FAR I HAVE HEARD OF NONE INVOLVING DIPLOMATS OR
OTHER FOREIGNERS. SEARCHES WENT ON, BUT DIP HOUSES
WERE LEFT ALONE. MOST ROADBLOCKS HAVE DISAPPEARED,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ADDIS 01833 290700Z

AND INTENSITY OF NIGHT FIRING, WHILE HEAVY IN SOME
PLACES FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME, DECREASED OVERALL
IN CITY.

3. PROBLEM REMAINS AS WE HAVE DESCRIBED IT -- THE
DANGER OF INDISCRIMINATE FIRE BY CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS
OF PEOPLE UNTRAINED IN WEAPONRY WHO ARE NOT VERY CARE-

FUL ABOUT LOOKING BEFORE THEY LEAP. SO LONG AS DIRG PERCEIVES AN EPRP THREAT IN ADDIS, WE CAN EXPECT PRESENT SITUATION TO CONTINUE. DECREASE IN INTENSITY OVER WEEKEND MAY TURN OUT TO HAVE BEEN GOOD SING, BUT WE SHALL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE. MEANWHILE ACTIVITY IS NOT DIRECTED AT FOREIGNERS IN GENERAL, NOR AMERICANS IN PARTICULAR, AND NO FOREIGN MISSION IN ADDIS TO MY KNOWLEDGE HAS TAKEN ANY ACTION TO SEND ANY OF ITS PEOPLE OUT. INDEED I UNDERSTAND EC-9 MISSIONS MET LAST WEEKEND AND SPECIFICALLY DECIDED TIME HAD NOT YET COME.

4. I SHARE DEPT'S ASSUMPTION THAT LARGE EXODUS OF AMERICANS WOULD LIKELY HAVE ADVERSE IMPACT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH UNPREDICTABLE EFFECTS ON THOSE WHO REMAINED. IN ADDITION IT MIGHT WELL CAUSE OTHER EMBASSIES TO FOLLOW SUIT, THEREBY RISKING COMPOUNDING A POTENTIAL PROBLEM. NONETHELESS, IF IN MY JUDGMENT AND THAT OF THE COUNTRY TEAM, THE SITUATION DETERIORATED TO THE POINT WHERE WE FELT AMERICANS SHOULD LEAVE, I WOULD NOT LET THIS CONSIDERATION STAND IN THE WAY OF RECOMMENDING A NEXT STEP. FOR THE PRESENT, I DO NOT THINK WE HAVE YET REACHED THAT POINT, BUT WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR SITUATION CAREFULLY. MEANWHILE, I RECOMMEND THAT DEPT CONTINUE STUDY QUESTION OF VOLUNTARY DEPARTURE (WHICH LOGICAL NEXT STEP) SO THAT IF WE CONCLUDE THAT WE SHOULD TAKE VOLUNTARY ROUTE, DEPT'S MACHINERY WILL BE READY TO GO, DELAYS WILL BE MINIMAL, AND WASTE MOTION CAN BE AVOIDED.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ADDIS 01833 290700Z

TIENKEN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CITIZEN PROTECTION, POLITICAL SITUATION, EVACUATION PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS01833
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770106-1095
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770313/aaaaakym.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9653a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 67840, 77 STOCKHOLM 1977
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2970947
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAFETY OF AMCITS IN ETHIOPIA
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, ET, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9653a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009